

Ninth Annual Induction Banquet  
April 28, 2015 | Muse Center



## *Hall of Fame History*

The Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame was conceived in the interest of recognizing coaches and athletes who have coached and/or played in one or more of Mississippi's public community or junior colleges. Acknowledging the fact that there have been many outstanding athletes who have contributed greatly to the successful sports programs throughout the two-year college system, the Mississippi Association of Community & Junior Colleges (MACJC) began a program of recognition in 2007 whereby individuals may be recognized for their contributions to the tremendous success of community & junior college sports in Mississippi.

The By-Laws for the Mississippi Community & Junior College Sports Hall of Fame were considered and approved by the MACJC at its annual athletic meeting on January 23, 2007 and were amended by the MACJC on August 26, 2008. These By-Laws established the framework to recognize individual athletes/coaches for their athletic achievements.

Forty-five (45) individuals were inducted as Charter Members in 2007, thirty (30) were inducted in 2008, and fifteen (15) have been inducted each subsequent year. Fifteen new members will be inducted in 2015 as the Ninth Class of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame! Congratulations to the Class of 2015!

## *Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame*

Ninth Annual Induction Banquet

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Muse Center

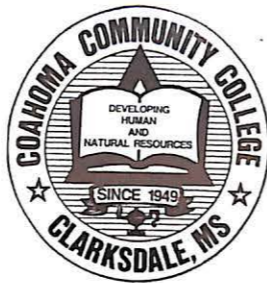


*Registration 5:15 PM & Banquet 6:00 PM*

### ***Program***

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| Welcome                                | Bill Snyder, Master of Ceremonies<br>Public Relations Director, MGCCC  |
| Announcement of SHF Members            | Bill Snyder  |
| Pledge                                 | Alton Ricks, Co-Lin CC<br>SHF Executive Committee  |
| Invocation                             | Mike Eaton, Itawamba CC<br>President-Elect, SHF Executive Committee  |
| Welcome                                | Earl Marshall, East Central CC<br>President, SHF Executive Committee   |
| Dinner                                 |  |
| Announcement of Officers for 2014-2015 | Earl Marshall, President   |
| Comments                               | Dr. Johnny Allen, MACJC Chairman<br>President, Northeast MS CC<br><br>Dr. Eric Clark<br>Executive Director, MCCB |
| Special Recognitions                   | Dr. Howell C. Garner<br>Executive Director, MCCF   |
| Awards Presentation                    | Presidents of Respective Colleges  |
| Remarks                                | Representative, Class of 2015  |
| Business Session                       | Earl Marshall, President   |
| Closing Remarks                        | Dr. Howell C. Garner   |
| Benediction                            | Dr. Howell C. Garner   |



## Ramona McCastle

Ramona McCastle, without doubt, was one of the most talented athletes ever to wear a Lady Tigers uniform. As part of the most successful women's basketball team ever to represent Coahoma Community College, her raw talent helped to bring national recognition to the CCC basketball program.

A graduate of Sicily Island High School in Louisiana, McCastle averaged nearly 30 points per game during her senior season. She was offered and accepted a full scholarship to attend Coahoma, and played for the Lady Tigers during the 1978 and 1979 seasons. During her two-year career, the shooting guard averaged 20.5 points per game, nine rebounds and four assists while leading the Coahoma women to their highest-ever national ranking at No. 2 in 1979.



During McCastle's sophomore season, she earned All-American honors and was selected to play in the Mississippi All-Star game from the North Division, where she was voted the game's Most Valuable Player. McCastle was also selected to play in the first-ever National Junior College All-Star Game in Kansas City, Kansas, where she was voted the game's Top Defensive Player. The 1979 team was also enshrined into the National Junior College Hall of Fame as the Lady Tigers averaged nearly 100 points per game and won the Mississippi State Title.

After her sophomore year at Coahoma, McCastle received more than 20 scholarship offers from 4-year colleges and universities before accepting an offer from Mississippi Valley State University. While playing for the Lady Devillets, she was named the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Player of the Year in 1982, and earned All-State and All-American honors. She was poised to join the New Orleans Pride of the Women's Professional Basketball League after her senior season; however, the league was shut down before she graduated.

McCastle earned her Associate's and Bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education, and has coached basketball and taught at the high school, junior college, and university levels. She is currently pursuing her doctoral degree in education.

*Class of 2015*

## Cindy Hodges Williams

Cindy Hodges Williams played basketball at Copiah-Lincoln Community College from 1975 to 1977, where she was a member of Hall of Famer Coach Gwyn Young's first Co-Lin team.

As a freshman, Williams led Co-Lin to the regional tournament, where she scored 29 points in the first half of a game, before the addition of the three-point line. During her sophomore year, she averaged 26 points and six assists per game, including one game in which she scored 42 points. She was selected First Team All-State and All-Region in both her freshman and sophomore years.

After leaving Co-Lin, Williams went on to play at Southeastern Louisiana University, where she was selected All-State, All-Region, and All-American. At the national tournament, she set a national assist record with 19 assists in one game and 59 assists for the tournament. She currently holds the single game assist record (19), the single season assist record (364), and the school career assist record at Southeastern. Williams was drafted and played professional basketball with the New Orleans Pride in 1979 and 1980, after which the league folded. Williams was inducted into the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame in 1998 and the Southeastern Louisiana Hall of Fame in 1990, where she was one of the first two women ever selected.

Williams is married to Johnny Williams and they have two children, Ryan, and his wife Loren, and Wade, and his wife Brea. They have two grandchildren, Caden and John Parker, and a third one on the way. Williams is currently a 5th grade math teacher at Wesson Attendance Center.



Mississippi Community College  
Sports Hall of Fame

# East Central Community College



Marcus Mann

Marcus Mann, a native of Carthage and a graduate of South Leake High School, is regarded as one of the best basketball players ever to wear a Warrior uniform. In 1993, he helped lead East Central Community College to its first state championship in men's basketball in 40 years. Mann was a First Team All-American selection and was twice named to the All-Region 23 and All-State teams.

He continued his basketball success at Mississippi Valley State University, where he led the Delta Devils to the Southwest Athletic Conference title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament against Georgetown University his senior season. He was selected SWAC "Player of the Year" and led the nation in NCAA Division I rebounding.

Upon his selection to the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004, Mann, who is also a member of the ECCC Academic Hall of Fame, said, "I'm not a millionaire; I don't have the luxury homes or cars, but I'm happy and content. That is the best thing that a person can ever have in life – to be happy with who he is and to enjoy the things with which God has blessed him. It is amazing how God can take a person all over the country and even the world, then bring him back to the area where it all started. I am just thankful to be back here, and to be an instrument for young people. Life is not all about fame and fortune; being happy is the most important thing."

Mann was a top draft choice in the 1996 National Basketball Association draft, being the 40th pick in the second round of the Golden State Warriors. After reaching his goal of being a player in the NBA, Mann had a sudden loss of interest in the sport he once loved so much and decided to leave the limelight to follow a call to the ministry. In 1997, he became an ordained minister. He currently serves as pastor of First Baptist Church, Carthage, Mississippi, and serves as a full-time chaplain for Tyson Foods, Inc. in Forest. He has one daughter, Genesis A'Miyah Mann.



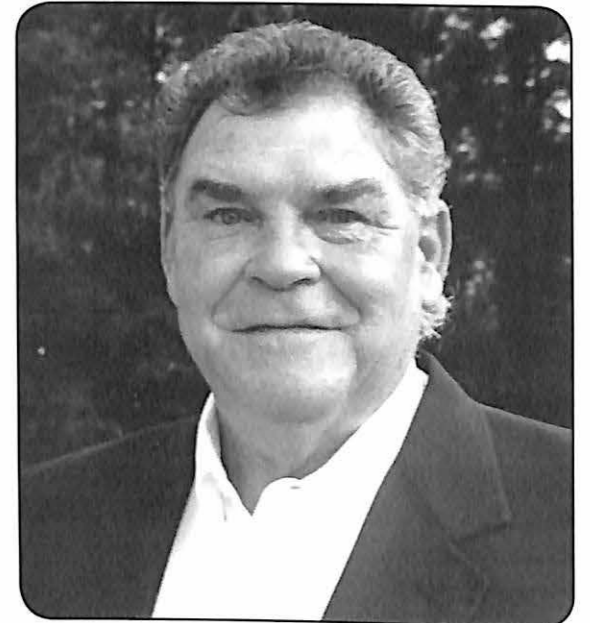
Tom Goode

A member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, the Mississippi State University Sports Hall of Fame, as well as East Mississippi Community College's Sports Hall of Fame, Tom Goode's illustrious athletic career spanned approximately 50 years beginning with his playing days as an all-conference football and basketball performer at West Point High School.

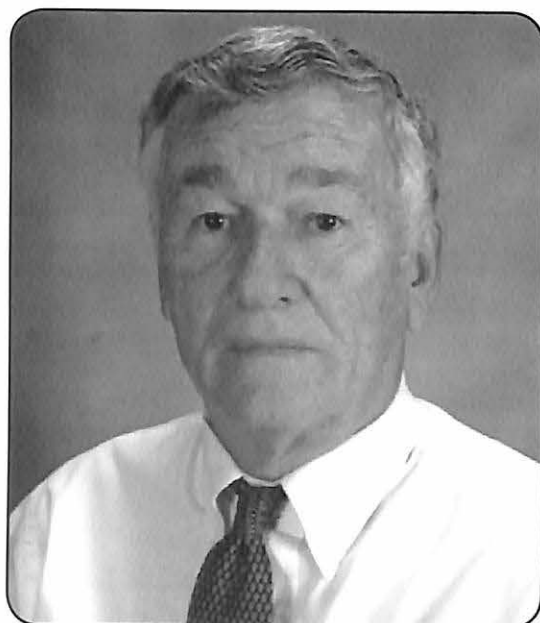
An All-SEC standout at Mississippi State, Goode capped his collegiate career by garnering Kodak All-America honors as a senior in addition to playing in the Blue-Gray All-Star Classic, Coaches All-America Game and Senior Bowl following the 1960 season. Drafted in the second round by the Houston Oilers of the former American Football League and in the 17th round by the NFL's Detroit Lions, Goode played four seasons (1962-65) at center and linebacker for the Oilers before moving to the NFL's Miami Dolphins in 1966. His four-year (1966-69) playing career with the Dolphins was highlighted by his 1969 selection to the NFL's All-Pro team. Having played in 152 consecutive games during his nine-year professional career, Goode is probably most noted for his final professional appearance on the gridiron. As a member of the 1970 Baltimore Colts squad, the veteran center snapped the ball for Jim O'Brien's game-winning field goal against the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowl V played in Miami's Orange Bowl.

Following retirement from professional football, Goode primarily spent the next 20 years serving as assistant coach at four Southeastern Conference schools: Mississippi State University (1972-75 and 1984-89), Vanderbilt University (1977 and 1990-91), University of Mississippi (1978-82), and University of Alabama (1983). His first head coaching opportunity came during a 12-year stint (1992-2003) as head coach and athletic director at East Mississippi Community College. In 1996, Goode was named Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Coach of the Year after leading the EMCC Lions to an 8-2 record. A recipient of both the Lifetime Achievement Award and Unsung Hero Award from the All-American Football Foundation, Goode closed out his coaching career as an assistant at Oak Hill Academy in his hometown of West Point.

Goode has been married 19 years to the former Sonia Buffington Foster of Canton, and they are the parents of three boys, Tommy and Michael Goode, and Brin Foster, and two girls, Lessie (Goode) Belk and Sandi (Foster) May. They also have seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



*Class of 2015*



John R. Gray

A native of Pelahatchie, John R. Gray was a two-sport standout at Hinds Junior College from 1956 to 1958, starring in baseball and basketball for the Eagles. Gray was a two-year letterman in both sports at Hinds, becoming the second guard in Hinds basketball history to make the All-State team and had an amazing .650 batting average in baseball. For his achievements in two sports on the Raymond Campus, he was inducted into the school's Sports Hall of Fame in 2000.

After graduating from Hinds in 1958, Gray moved on to nearby Mississippi College, where he averaged 21.5 points per game for his career on the school's basketball team and was part of the Choctaws' record setting offense that averaged 114 points per game in his senior season. He was selected as an honorable mention All-American and ranked 14th in the country in scoring among small college players. Gray, who received his bachelor's degree from MC in 1960, was later inducted into the school's Sports Hall of Fame in 1998.

After his time at Mississippi College, Gray moved into the world of high school athletics, where he first coached football and basketball at Okolona High School alongside former Mississippi State University coach Bob Tyler. He coached baseball and basketball at Beaumont High School, and coached basketball, football, and track and field at Utica High School. Beginning in 1975, Gray served Brookhaven Academy for 25 years in a variety of roles, including headmaster, teacher and coach, including stints as the boys' head basketball coach for six years and head football coach for four years. The school named the gymnasium "The John R. Gray Gymnasium" in his honor. His 1981 boys' basketball team at Brookhaven Academy won the Mississippi Private School Association (MPSA) state tournament at East Rankin in his hometown of Pelahatchie.

He served as an administrator and basketball coach at Adams County Christian School in Natchez for six years, and as basketball coach at Centreville Academy for two years. He is currently employed as an assistant principal at Enterprise Attendance Center.

Gray, who was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) Hall of Fame in 2002, is a deacon at First Baptist Church of Brookhaven and is a former member of the MPSA Athletic Committee and board of directors of the Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce.

He resides in Brookhaven with his wife, the former Alice Marie Allen of Mendenhall, who, like Gray, was a student at Hinds from 1956-1958, and was a member of the nationally renowned Hi-Stepper dance team. The couple has two sons, Ricky and Barry, and four grandchildren. Ricky and Barry both coach basketball.

Aubrey Rozzell

Aubrey Rozzell spent his early years of school in Rome, Mississippi, moving on to attend Sunflower Consolidated High School by way of Rena Lara for three years. Following these moves, Rozzell transferred to Friars Point High School to play football. His last year of high school, he transferred to Holmes Agricultural High School, played first team tackle on the college team (Holmes Junior College) and lettered on the college's baseball team while still a high school senior.

Rozzell was offered a baseball and football scholarship to the University of Mississippi, but in order to remain close to home, he accepted a football scholarship to Delta State University, where he lettered four straight years in football, baseball and track. Rozzell later made Little All-American in 1955 and signed a professional football contract with the Chicago Bears as a middle linebacker. He was traded to the Pittsburgh Steelers, and made the starting roster as outside linebacker as a rookie.

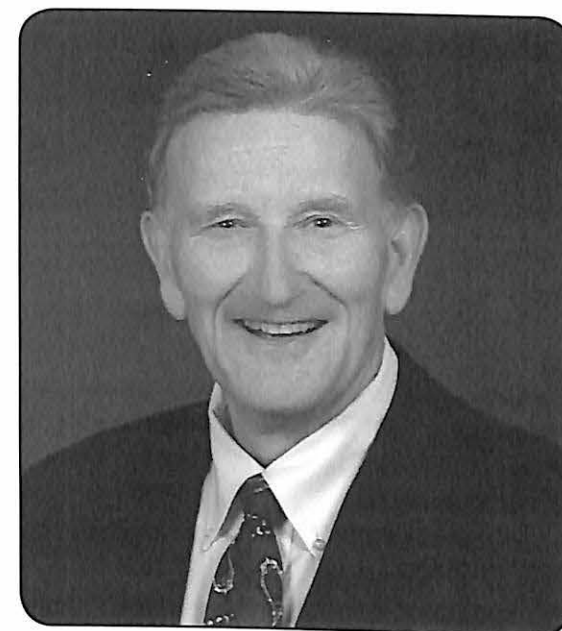
Rozzell suffered a back injury during his second year with the Steelers, and signed with the Montreal Alouettes as middle linebacker. The following year, Rozzell underwent career-ending back surgery.

After retiring from professional football, Rozzell began his coaching and teaching career at Holmes Junior College. His coaching career took him to Belle Glade, Florida, Delta State University, and Pascagoula High School, where he served as assistant principal and head football coach.

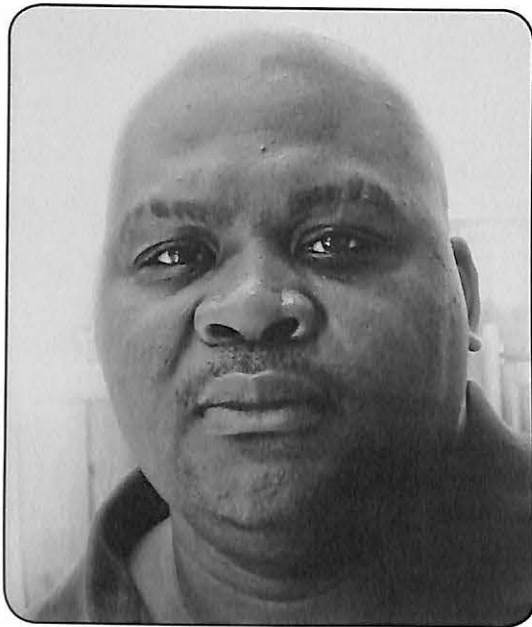
After ending his coaching career, Rozzell became the Executive Director of Mississippi State Parks in 1978, where he worked for 15 years under four governors. He served as President of the State Parks Directors Association, sat on the 50 States National Outdoor Recreation Association Board, and was appointed to the World's Fair Committee by William Winter in 1984. Upon his retirement in 1989 with impressive 34 and one-half years of service to the state of Mississippi, Rozzell enjoyed motivational speaking and involvement with jail and prison ministries.

Among his many awards and acclamations, the Mississippi Legislature passed a resolution honoring Rozzell for Top Agency in Energy Conservation, he was awarded the Mike Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award, and he was the keynote speaker at the International Recreation Conference in New Brunswick, Canada. He was recently inducted into the All-American Football Foundation, along with Walter Payton, as Little All-Americans throughout the nation. Rozzell was inducted into the Delta State University Hall of Fame in 1977 and the Holmes Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 1996.

Rozzell and his wife, Denece, reside in Quitman, MS and attend First Baptist Church of Quitman.



# Itawamba Community College



## Tim Bowens

Tim Bowens' athletic prowess was first recognized when he earned All-District honors in football as a junior at Okolona High School before grabbing the spotlight by leading the Chieftains to an 11-2 record and the Class 2A North State championship game on his way to earning All-State and All-District honors.

As a freshman at Itawamba Community College, Bowens helped lead the Indians to a 7-2-1 record.

During his final season at ICC, the Indians wrapped up the regular season with an 8-2 record and advanced to the MACJC Championship game and played in the Mineral Water Bowl in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Bowens left his mark on the ICC football program by laying the ground work for future programs and raising the bar of expectation for what it means

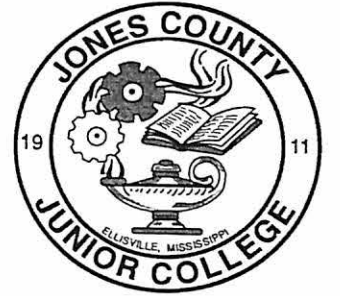
to wear the red and blue by being named a two-time MACJC All-State selection and an All-American by the NJCAA.

After his highly decorated career at ICC, Bowens kept his talents in North Mississippi and played for Coach Billy Brewer and the Ole Miss Rebels. Tim played started seven games and played in nine to record 47 solo tackles, six assists, six sacks, five tackles for loss, four pass break-ups, one interception, and one fumble recovery.

Bowens opted out of his senior season with the Rebels and entered the 1994 NFL Draft. Unsurprisingly, Bowens made an immediate impact for the Dolphins. He was named NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year by the Associated Press and was named to the All-Pro team after recording 44 solo tackles, eight assists, one fumble recovery, and three sacks. Bowens retired an 11-year veteran of the NFL, spending his entire career with the Dolphins. He finished his career with 407 tackles (297 solo), 22 sacks, 21 pass deflections, nine forced fumbles, five fumble recoveries (one of which allowed a touchdown against the Raiders in 1997), and made an impressive interception in 2000 against the Minnesota Vikings. Tim earned Pro Bowl honors in 1998 and 2002, helped Miami reach the playoffs seven times, and started 92 consecutive games, which, at the time, was the third best run in team history.

Former teammate Jason Taylor once said of Bowens, "Timbo was the transmission that made the machine run. He was as valuable as any teammate I ever had, yet he wanted absolutely none of the credit for it."

# Jones County Junior College



## Elmer Higginbotham

Elmer Higginbotham, a native of Macon, Mississippi, was a three-sport letterman in high school, participating in football, baseball, and basketball. He earned a football scholarship to East Mississippi Junior College, where he became an All-State player. He received his bachelor's degree at Livingston University in Alabama and Master of Education at the University of Southern Mississippi.

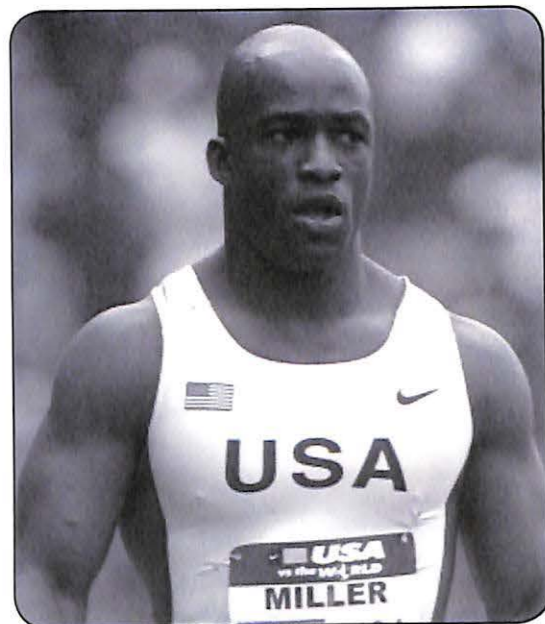
Higginbotham served as an assistant coach at East Mississippi Community College, and as head coach at Leakesville High School, posting a 13-7 record in 1969-70. He then coached at Jones County Junior College from 1971-1992, first as offensive line coach beginning in 1971, and as head coach from 1988-1992. He was also head baseball coach from 1971-88. While Higginbotham served as an assistant coach to Sim Cooley, the Bobcats won three state football championships and participated in the playoffs 12 times. He also helped the Bobcats go to the Junior Rose Bowl in 1977. Higginbotham coached in numerous postseason bowl games and coached several All-Star teams in football and baseball. He was inducted into the JCJC Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Higginbotham was an active member and deacon at First Baptist Church of Ellisville, Mississippi. A member of the Ellisville Lions Club, he was selected Lion of the Year, and was named a Melvin Jones Fellow by Lions Club International. He was a lifetime member of Masonic Lodge #161 and was an active member of Gideons International.

His wife, Sandra, retired as an instructor at JCJC in 1995. Both of their daughters, Michele Whittle and Mary Boleware, are JCJC graduates. He was the proud grandfather of three grandchildren. Higginbotham passed away in Hattiesburg on July 26, 2011 after a brief illness.

*Class of 2015*

# Meridian Community College



## Coby Miller

A native of Ackerman, MS, sprinter Coby Miller was a high school state champion in the 100 and 200 meter events, and was named All-American in football. He starred on the Meridian Community College Eagle track team in 1997, leading Meridian to the 1997 NJCAA Indoor National Championship, placing 2nd in the 100 meter among other strong finishes in sprints and relays.

Miller went on to earn a silver medal as a member of the United States' 4 X 100 meter relay team in the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. Miller was also a member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic team in Sydney, Australia. In the 2000 Olympic Games, Miller made the finals of the 200 meter and set a personal best of 19.96.

Miller was a standout at Auburn University in 1999-2000, where he claimed the 1999 NCAA indoor championship in the 200 meter, and won the same event in the World University Games. He was also national runner-up in both the 100 and 200 meters in the NCAA outdoor championships.

In 2001, Miller took the U.S. Indoor championship title in the 200 meter, and was a member of the gold medal U.S. 4 X 100 relay team in the IAAF World Cup Games. Miller's best career times in his specialty events are 9.98 in the 100, achieved in both the years 2000 and 2002, and 19.96 in the 200, recorded in 2000.



## Terry Thompson

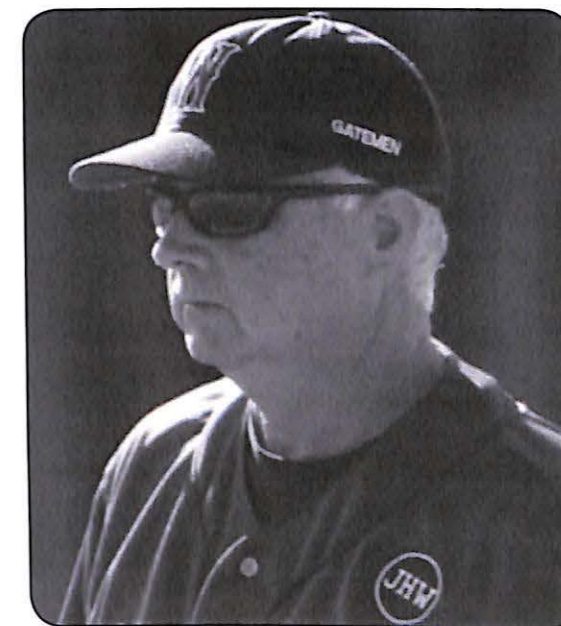
Former Mississippi Delta Community College baseball coach Terry Thompson played on the professional level with the Chicago Cubs and the Cleveland Indians before coming to MDCC as an assistant to Coach Jimmy Bellipanni. During his career at Mississippi Delta Community College, Thompson's Trojans amassed nine North Division Championships, eight Mississippi State Championships, and four NJCAA Region XXIII Championships.

Following his time in the major leagues, he coached four years at West Rome High School in Georgia before taking the reins at East Mississippi Community College, where he compiled an enviable 134-61 overall record during his four years. Thompson returned to Mississippi Delta, and during his final 19 years as head coach, won 633 games while losing 333.

His 767 wins make him the winningest baseball coach in Mississippi junior college history and set a standard that should stand for many years.

More than 100 former players, 48 of them pitchers, have signed to play with senior colleges or professional baseball teams, and six have been named NJCAA All-Americans. Most notably, five of his former players have pitched in the major leagues.

In addition, Thompson has coached in minor league professional baseball as a pitching coach and was an Associate Scout for the Kansas City Royals for 17 years.



Mississippi Community College  
Sports Hall of Fame

Class of 2015



### Luther "Benny" Goff

Benny Goff, a native of Hurley, Mississippi, graduated from East Central High School in 1964 before attending Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College from 1964 to 1966. He graduated from Delta State University in 1968, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration.

At MGCJC, Goff was a standout for the Bulldog football team as wide receiver/defensive back under Coach Harold Wesson in the 1964 and 1965 seasons. He set school records in receptions (68) and yards gained (895) in 1965. In that same season, he won the C.S. Wentzell Award as the team's outstanding player and was selected First Team All-State. At Delta State, he played for two years as defensive back, leading the team in interceptions in 1967.

Goff has served as Jackson County tax assessor for five terms, is the past executive director of the Jackson County Park Commission, taught in the public school system for nine years, and enjoys farming and raising Black Angus on his farm in Jackson County. He is a Mississippi Licensed Residential Appraiser - RA 614; a Mississippi Assessment Evaluator, the highest certification issued by the Mississippi Department of Revenue; and holds Assessment Evaluator I & II Designations. He is a member of the state and national chapters of the International Association of Assessing Officers. He has been president of the Mississippi Chapter of the International Association of Assessing Officers and the Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts.

Goff is a member of Caswell Springs United Methodist Church, where he serves on the Administrative Board and teaches Sunday School. He is also a member of S.M.M. Cursillo, Rector #33, the Jackson County United Methodist Men's Club, and an alumnus of Leadership Jackson County. He is currently chairperson of the Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District and past chair of the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Having coached Dixie Youth Baseball for 18 years, he is currently a coach and referee for the Upward Basketball Program for Youth. He is also a former part owner of Filets Restaurant in Pascagoula.



### Brenda Mayes

Brenda Mayes began the transformation of the Northeast Mississippi Community College women's basketball program into a national powerhouse. She was part of Northeast Sports Hall of Fame member Ricky Ford's first recruiting class as coach of the Lady Tigers in 1981. Northeast produced a 14-11 record and qualified for the Mississippi Junior College Conference North Half Tournament in Mayes' initial season. The Lady Tigers improved tremendously during the 1982-83 campaign with Mayes in the post. Northeast compiled a 26-8 overall record and finished just short of claiming state and regional championships.



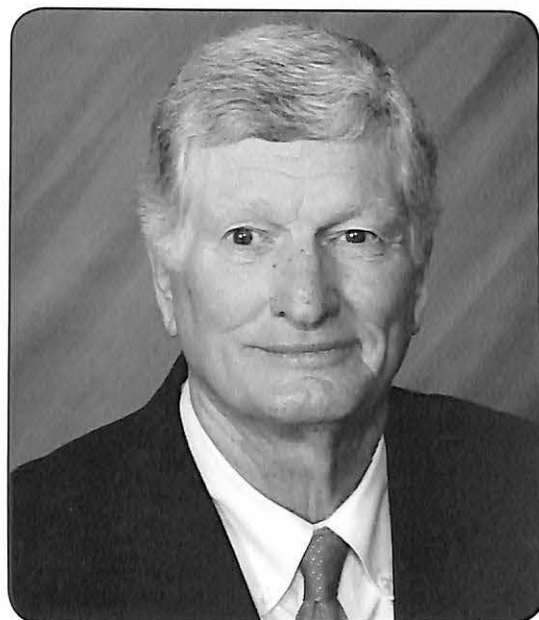
She was selected to the MJCC All-State team for her efforts as the leading scorer and rebounder for a Lady Tiger squad that averaged 74.2 points and 40.8 boards per contest, respectively. The Biggersville High School alumnae averaged a double-double that year with 21 points and 10.5 rebounds each outing. Mayes scored an outstanding 697 points for the entire season. She signed a scholarship with the University of North Alabama following her excellent seasons at Northeast.

Mayes was a founding member of the Northeast softball program as well, and starred for two seasons under Coach Millard Lothenore. The Tigers, who played at the slow-pitch level in the 1980s, compiled an 11-13 record in their opening campaign with victories over North Alabama and Blue Mountain College. Northeast's 1983 team that featured Mayes qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Tournament in Cullman, Alabama, with a 24-7 overall mark.

Mayes was the recipient of the Tiger Award for both softball and women's basketball. This award is given to a student-athlete who represents Northeast with a positive attitude on and off the field or court. She is actively involved in school functions and organizations, and is a member of the Northeast, North Alabama and Colbert County Sports Halls of Fame.

Mayes, who currently coaches at Muscle Shoals High School in Alabama, has been named Coach of the Year in both sports that she currently instructs by *The Times Daily* and in volleyball by *The Birmingham News*, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the Alabama High School Athletic Directors and Coaches Association.

# Northwest Mississippi Community College



G. Max Lee

G. Max Lee, of Metairie, Louisiana, was a two-sport athlete at Northwest Mississippi Junior College during the 1959-61 seasons, earning letters in both football and baseball for the Rangers. With Lee as quarterback for the 1960 Rangers in his sophomore season, the team finished the year with seven consecutive wins and won the school's first state championship (co-champs) at 8-2 overall. In that same year, he was named All-State and a Mississippi Junior College All-Star. Lee played the 1960-61 baseball seasons for Billy Oakley and Jack Adams as a pitcher and outfielder.

While at Northwest, Lee served as class president his freshman and sophomore year, president of Phi Theta Kappa his sophomore year, and was a member of the Student Council. In 1964, after leaving Northwest, he earned a bachelor's degree in Mechanical

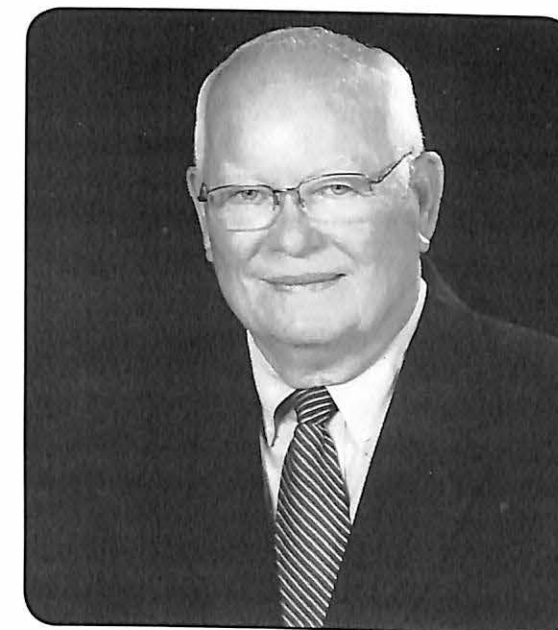
Engineering from Mississippi State University and served in the Naval Air Reserves from 1965-1971.

He was employed with Louisiana Power and Light (now Entergy Corporation) in New Orleans, Louisiana from 1964 until his retirement in 1999.

# Pearl River Community College



J. Larry Ladner



J. Larry Ladner, a native of Picayune and a resident of Kiln, has been tagged Mississippi's "Ambassador of Basketball". His dedication to Pearl River Community College spans many decades, beginning when he played basketball in 1955-1957 for the Pearl River Junior College Wildcats under Coach Jack Gallagher. He also participated in football and baseball. Coach Ladner, as he is known in the state, transferred to Louisiana College, where he continued to star in basketball for two years. He graduated in 1960 with a degree in health and physical education, and was inducted into the Louisiana College Sports Hall of Fame in 1997.

He coached basketball at Picayune Memorial High School from 1960-71, where he had a record of 263-82. A 1994 Mississippi Coaches Hall of Fame inductee, Coach Ladner was selected South Mississippi's Coach of the Year twice and was chosen to coach in the North-South All-Star basketball game in 1969. In addition to his many personal, athletic, and professional honors, he is most proud of the fact that of the 53 players that graduated from his basketball program at Picayune Memorial High School, 52 attended college.

Following his career at Picayune, Coach Ladner moved to the University of Southern Mississippi, where he became an assistant professor and basketball specialist in the Department of Coaching and Sports Administration from 1971-1991. He played a very prominent role in the development of that program, the first of its kind in the nation. Upon retirement from USM, he was accorded the title of Assistant Professor Emeritus.

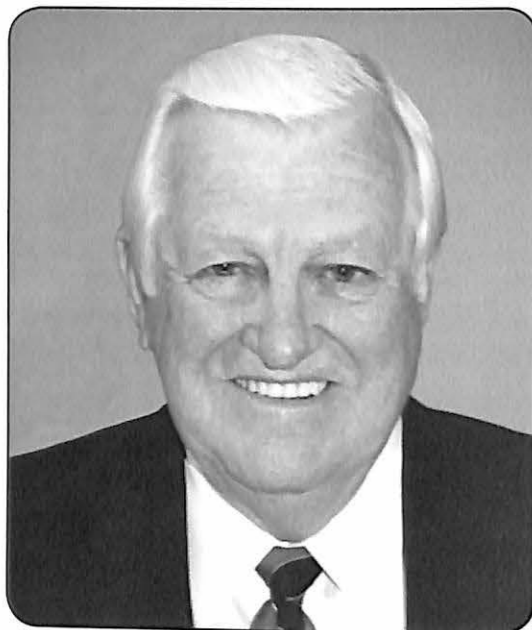
During his time at USM, he was named Distinguished Professor of the Year in 1984, and received five Excellence in Teaching Awards. Many of the students he taught over that time went on to become successful coaches in their own right on the junior high, high school, and college levels.

Coach Ladner is a noted author on the game of basketball with many articles published in national and international publications. The prestigious honor of becoming the first American basketball coach to conduct clinics, coaching seminars, and lectures in Venezuela enriched his career in coaching and teaching. He also has been invited to speak in 17 different states, as well as foreign countries.

A charter member of both the Sports Hall of Fame and Development Foundation Board, Coach Ladner has maintained a strong relationship with Pearl River Community College. He served as president and vice president of the Alumni Association, chair of the school's Museum Board, and was selected Alumnus of the Year. Coach Ladner and his wife, Peggy (also a PRCC graduate), have four children - Pamela Ann, Kimberly Ann, Jay Larry, and Stewart Dean, and four grandchildren.

*Class of 2015*

# Southwest Mississippi Community College



## J. W. Beck

After a brilliant athletic career at Summit High School, J. W. Beck came to Southwest in the fall of 1954 where he played both football and baseball. He was an outstanding quarterback, defensive back and was chosen Most Athletic in 1955-56. He received an All-State Honorable Mention in 1955 when his team compiled an 8-2 record and missed going to the Junior Rose Bowl by one victory.

Mr. Beck continued his education at Northwestern Louisiana State University, where he played football and baseball. He was a member of the 1957 Gulf States Conference Championship football team and the 1958 Baseball Conference Championship team. He graduated from Northwestern in 1958.

Mr. Beck entered the military service in 1959 and served his country with distinction, earning the rank of Lieutenant in the

United States Navy. Following active duty and reserve service in the military, Mr. Beck entered into a teaching-coaching career. He taught math and coached at North Pike High School, Miami Senior High School and McComb High School, and served as Athletic Director at two of those schools. Mr. Beck was chosen baseball "Coach of the Year" in 1966.

In his professional life, Mr. Beck worked for several construction and design companies before his retirement at age 76. In 1988, he was appointed by the Governor as Director of the Bureau of Buildings and Management for the State of Mississippi, where planning and appropriations for capital improvements for State agencies are processed for legislative action. Mr. Beck continues to be very active in civic affairs, serving as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Brandon.

Mr. Beck is an avid supporter of Southwest Mississippi Community College. He served on the Southwest Board of Trustees for 12 years, as past President of the Mississippi Junior College Trustees Association, served 15 years as host of a weekly radio program sponsored by the Alumni Association, is a charter and active member of the SMCC Development Foundation, SMCC Alumni Association lifetime member, named 1978 Alumnus of the Year and in 1985 was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame by the Alumni Association. He has established a book scholarship for needy students.

He is a member of Brandon First United Methodist Church where he is a Sunday School Teacher, chair of the Board of Trustees, a member of the Administrative Board, and Men's Club. He has been an active member of Gideons International for over 30 years. Mr. Beck is married to Sondra C. Beck and they are the parents of two daughters, Heatherly and Christy, and one son, Johnny.

## With Appreciation . . .

*With Appreciation. . .*

*Our sincere appreciation is expressed to the following individuals and groups who contributed greatly to the success of this induction of the*

*Ninth Class into the*

*Mississippi Community & Junior College Sports Hall of Fame:*

*Mrs. Celeste Williamson*

*Program Design*

*Ms. Dede Ginn*

*Mrs. Vickie McGee*

*Ms. Marilee Woods*

*Administrative Support*

*Muse Center Staff*

*Facility Arrangements*

*Mrs. Dot Murphy*

*Elections Committee Chair*

*Mrs. Judy Bufkin*

*Decorations*

*Mr. Steve Diffey*

*Photography*

*Mr. Mark LaFrancis*

*Mr. Mark M. LaFrancis*

*PowerPoint & Video production*

*Mr. Bill Snyder*

*Master of Ceremonies*

*Hinds Connection*

*Student Hospitality Group*

*Gratitude is also expressed to the many other individuals who made contributions to the success of this program in some way.*

Mississippi Community College  
Sports Hall of Fame

## Mississippi Community & Junior College Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

### Coahoma Community College

Ella Morris, Coach, Basketball, 2007  
Mary Ann Tribble, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Dr. Lonnie J. Edwards, Player, Basketball, 2007  
George A. Green, Coach, Basketball & Track, 2008  
Isaiah Peterson, Coach, Basketball, 2008  
Marcus Reeves, Player, Basketball, 2009  
Dr. Marvin Hogan, Player & Coach, Football, 2010  
Audrey Y. Williams, Player, Basketball, 2011  
Earnest Killum, Player, Basketball, 2012  
Coach Oree Banks, Coach and Athletic Director, 2013  
Myron C. Martin, Player, Football, 2014

### Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Henry L. "Hook" Stone, Coach, Football, 2007  
M. K. Turk, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Carl Medley, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Alton Ricks, Player, Basketball, 2008  
Charlie Ward, Player, Football, Basketball, Baseball, 2008  
Alton Greenlee, Player, Football, Track; Coach, Football, Golf, 2009  
A.J. "Red" Mangum, Jr., Player & Coach, Football, 2010  
Bob Ricketts, Player & Coach, Football & Baseball, 2011  
Gwyn H. Young, Player & Coach, Basketball, 2012  
James Melvin "Bucky" Waters, player and coach, 2013  
Albert "Sonny" Hill, Player and Coach, Football, 2014

### East Central Community College

Denver Brackeen, Player & Coach, 2007  
Lucille Wood, Player & Coach, Basketball & Tennis, 2007  
Walter Arno Vincent, Player & Coach, Football & Basketball, 2007  
Lamar Blount, Player, Football, 2008  
Earl Marshall, Player, Football, 2008  
Joe Clark, Player, Basketball; Coach, Basketball, Golf, & Tennis, 2009

Van Chancellor, Player & Coach, Basketball, 2010  
Dr. Clyde Muse, Player, Basketball & Track, 2011  
Richard Harris, Player, Basketball, 2012  
Samuel Carson "Sammy" Pace, player and coach, 2013  
Evelyn "Snoopy" Bender, Player and Coach, Basketball, 2014

### East Mississippi Community College

Robert Victor "Bull-Cyclone" Sullivan, Coach, Football, 2007  
William F. Buckner, Player, Football, 2007  
Clyde "Baby Doll" Pierce, Player, Football, 2007  
Don Edwards, Player, Football, 2008  
Ken Waddell, Sr., Player, Football; Coach, Football, 2008  
Elbert "Lum" Wright, Player, Baseball & Football, 2009  
Tom Scarborough, Player, Basketball, 2010  
Joe Rowell, Player, Football, 2011  
Johnny Fisher, Player, Football, 2012  
Retha Hand Henderson, player, 2013  
Dr. Randall Bradberry, Player and Coach, Football, 2014

### Hinds Community College

Nick Revon, Player – 3 sports, 2007  
Earl Leggett, Player & Coach, Football, 2007  
Troy Arliss Ricks, Coach – 2 sports, 2007  
William "Bucky" McElroy, Player, Football, 2008  
Joe Renfroe, Coach & Athletic Director, Football, Baseball, & Golf, 2008  
Durwood Graham, Player, Football & Track; Coach, Football & Golf, 2009  
E.E. "Tad" Thrash, Player, Football, Track, & Boxing; Coach, Boxing, 2010  
Homer L. Boyd, Player, Football, 2011  
Rene' T. Warren, Coach, Softball, Athletic Director, 2012  
Dr. Cleon Knight, Coach, 2013  
Dr. Albert Gore, Player, Baseball, Football, Basketball, Boxing, Track and Field, 2014

### Holmes Community College

Ode Burrell, Player, Football, 2007  
Charlie Howard, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Hugh M. Pepper, Player – 2 sports; 2007  
Dr. Melvin "Mel" Gibson, Player, Basketball, 2008  
Larry Therrell, Player, Football, Basketball, Baseball, & Track, 2008  
Homer D. "Cotton" Robertson, Player & Coach, Football, 2009  
Greg Robinson, Player, Football, 2010  
Faye G. Dillard, Player & Coach, Basketball, 2011  
Dr. Donald E. Phillips, Player & Coach, Baseball, basketball, 2012  
Coach Bennie Kimble, coach, 2013  
Ricky Black, Player and Coach, Football, 2014

### Itawamba Community College

Joe Ferguson, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Larry Gann, Player, Football, 2007  
Mark Bray, Player, Football, 2007  
Kindle "Bud" Davis, Coach, Basketball, 2008  
Windle "Buster" Davis, Coach, Basketball, 2008  
Linda M. Partlow, Coach, Tennis & Softball, 2009  
Paul Johnson, Player, Football; Coach, Tennis, Football, Track, 2010  
Roy Cresap, Player, Baseball & Basketball; Coach, Football & Baseball, 2011  
Michael B. Eaton, Coach, Football, 2012  
Jim "Jimmy" Walden, player, 2013  
Carrie Ball-Williamson, Coach, Women's Basketball and Softball, 2014

### Jones County Junior College

Sim Cooley, Player, Football, 2007  
Joe Flowers, Player, Football, 2007  
A.B. Howard, Coach, Basketball & Football, 2007  
Randall Boone, Player, Basketball, 2008  
John A. Perkins, Player, Football & Track, 2008  
Eugene C. "Gene" Tullios, Player, Basketball, 2009  
Gwen Magee, Coach, Softball, 2010  
Louis D. Ready, Player, Basketball & Tennis, 2011

Verl Parker Dykes, Sr., Player & Coach, Football, 2012  
Mike McClellan, player, 2013  
Jackie Parker, Player, Football, 2014

### Meridian Community College

Lou Weddington Hart, Player & Coach, Golf, 2007  
Ronald Murray, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Clifton Phifer Lee, Player, Baseball, 2007  
James "Jim" Redgate, Jr., Coach, Basketball & Golf, 2008  
Jason William Smith, Player, Baseball, 2008  
Billy Harold Smith, Coach, Baseball, 2009  
Paul Anthony Phillips, Player, Baseball, 2010  
Carlton D. "Corky" Palmer, Coach, Baseball, 2011  
Wanda McPhail, Player & Coach, Tennis, 2012  
Robert M. Dreyfus, III, player, 2013  
Scott Berry, Coach, Baseball, 2014

### Mississippi Delta Community College

James E. "Jimmy" Bellipanni, Coach – 3 sports, 2007  
Herbert Hargett, Player, Tennis, 2007  
Bob Clark, Player, Football, 2007  
Carl Grubb, Coach & Player, Football & Track, 2008  
Jim Randall, Coach, Football, 2008  
John Ray Ricks, Player, Basketball, 2009  
Sam Latham, Player, Football & Track, 2010  
Benton White, Player & Coach, Football & Track, 2011  
James "Woody" Gray, Coach, Football, 2012  
Charles "Chuck" Thomas, player, 2013  
John Benge, Player, Football, Basketball, Track, 2014

### Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Bob Weathers, Coach, Basketball, 2007  
George Sekul, Player, 2 sports; Coach, 2 sports, 2007  
Ken "Curley" Farris, Coach, 2 sports, 2007  
Curtis Lee Davis, Player, Basketball; Coach, Tennis, 2008

## Mississippi Community & Junior College Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

Edward "Ed" Evans, Player, Football, Basketball, & Track, 2008  
Robert H. "Bobby" Holmes, Player, Football, Basketball, Baseball, 2009  
George Vernon Ehlers, Player, Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track, 2010  
Barbara A. "Sue" Ross, Player & Coach, Basketball & Tennis, 2011  
Earl P. King, Jr., Player, Football & track, 2012  
Josh M. Wells, player, 2013  
Henry Rath, Player and Coach, Football, 2014

### Northeast Mississippi Community College

Adrian Smith, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Bonner Arnold, Coach, Basketball, 2007  
William B. Ward, Coach, Football, 2007  
Kenneth "Ken" Lindsey, Player, Basketball, 2008  
Harold White, Player & Coach, Football, 2008  
Harvey Childers, Coach, Basketball, 2009  
David "Nub" Strickland, Player, Football, 2010  
Kunshinge Sorrell Howard, Player, Basketball, 2011  
Ricky G. Ford, Player & Coach, Basketball, 2012  
David Milton Carnell, Coach, 2013  
Mike Lewis, Player, Baseball; Coach, Basketball, 2014

### Northwest Mississippi Community College

Bobby Franklin, Coach, Football, 2007  
Jim Miles, Coach, Baseball, 2007  
Donny Castle, Coach, Baseball, 2007  
Harry Adair, Coach, Basketball, 2008  
Cortez Kennedy, Player, Football, 2008  
Kenneth "Cat" Robbins, Coach, Basketball, 2009  
Jamie W. Howell, Sr., Player, Basketball, Baseball, Track, 2010  
Don Randolph, Player & Coach, Basketball, 2011  
Mike Rowan, Player, Football, baseball; Coach, track and softball, 2012  
Lawrence "Bud" Young, Coach, 2013  
Will Hall, Player, Football, 2014

### Pearl River Community College

Thomas D. "Dobie" Holden, Coach, Football, 2007  
Willie Heidelberg, Player, Football, 2007  
Antrice McGill Walker, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Tommy Walters, Player, Football, 2008  
Jerrel Wilson, Player, Football, 2008  
Frank N. "Twig" Branch, Player, Football & Track, 2009  
J. E. Loiacano, Player, Football, 2010  
Bobby Weaver, Player, Football & Baseball, 2011  
Mack Cochran, Player, Football, 2012  
Steve Regan, player, 2013  
Douglas Bryan Daniels, Sr., Player, Football, 2014

### Southwest Mississippi Community College

Horace Holmes, Coach & Player, Basketball, 2007  
Vester Newcomb, Player, Football, 2007  
Toby Rayborn, Player, Basketball, 2007  
Robert Brock "R.B." Nunnery, Player, Football, 2008  
Sammy Howard, Player, Football, 2008  
Joseph B. "Dutch" Nichols, Player, Basketball, 2009  
Bobby Nelson, Player, Basketball, 2010  
Jerry C. Reid, Player & Coach, Football, 2011  
Earnest W. "E.W." Foy, Player, Basketball, 2012  
Dr. Gene R. Barrett, player, 2013  
Dr. Oliver Young, Player and Coach, Basketball, 2014

# Thanks to Sodexo

for their support of the

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Sports Hall of Fame



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Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

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*"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines  
what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it."*

*Lou Holtz*

*"Today I will do what others won't, so tomorrow I can  
accomplish what others can't"*

*Jerry Rice*

*"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase  
perfection we can catch excellence."*

*Vince Lombardi*

*"You are never a loser until you quit trying."*

*Mike Ditka*

*"Doctors and scientists said that breaking the four-minute  
mile was impossible, that one would die in the attempt. Thus,  
when I got up from the track after collapsing at the finish line, I  
figured I was dead."*

*Roger Bannister (after becoming the first person to break the  
four-minute mile, 1952.)*

*"I've failed over & over & over again in my  
life & that is why I succeed."*

*Michael Jordan*

*"You can't get much done in life if you only work on the days  
when you feel good."*

*Jerry West*

*"If you play your heart out for what your jersey says on the  
front, everyone will remember what the jersey  
says on the back."*

*Miracle (US Men's Hockey Team Film)*

*"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up. Heroes get  
remembered, but legends never die."*

*Babe Ruth*

*"Procrastination is one of the most common and deadliest of  
diseases and its toll on success and happiness is heavy."*

*Wayne Gretzky*



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